

Message Text

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71

ACTION AF-08

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6980

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGUI 0741

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, EMIN, CT

SUBJECT: SCED DISPUTE

REF: BANGUI 0731

1. SOMEWHAT TO OELBAUM'S SURPRISE PRESIDENT BOKASSA RESPONDED
APRIL 24 TO JOLIS' LETTER REPORTED PARA 2 REFTTEL. FOLLOWING
IS TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

QUOTE MONSIEUR JOLIS,

PAR TELEX VOUS ACCUSEZ RECEPTION DE MA LETTRE QUI JUSTEMENT
ACCEDE A VOTRE DEMANDE ECRITE TENDANT A RENONCER AUX DIFFERENTS
TITRES MINIERES QUI VOUS ONT ETE CONCEDES CONFORMEMENT A VOTRE
PROPRE DEMANDE ADRESSEE AU GOUVERNEMENT CENTRAFRICAIN AU
MOMENT DE LA CREATION DE LA SCED STOP

QUOTE VOUS DEMANDEZ LA MAIN-LEVEE, CERTES CETTE MAIN-LEVEE
INTERVIENDRA AU MOMENT OU LA COMMISSION DE TRAVAIL MISE EN
PLACE PAR MON GOUVERNEMENT POUR EXAMINER L'ENSEMBLE DES
POINTS ET DES GRIEFS QUI VOUS SONT REPROCHES
NOTAMMENT PE MANQUEMENT GRAVENDONT VOUS ETES REMDU
RESPONSJBLE PLUS PRECISEMENT PAR LA VIOLATION DES
STATUTS JURIDIQUES DE LA SCED STOP

QUOTE CES STATUTS CONTIENNENT DES OBLIGATONS QUE VOUS
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N'AVEZ PAS REMPLIES ET C'EST CE QUI VOUS REND COUPABLE DES

FAUTES QUE VOUS AVEZ COMMISES A L'EGARD DU GOUVERNEMENT
CENTRAFRICAIN STOP

QUOTE EN EGARD A CES PROBLEMES DIFFICILES, SEULE UNE
RECONTRE A BANGUI* AUTOUR D'UNE TABLE RONDE EST
NECESSAIRE, L'UNIQUE MOYEN DE CLARIFIER LA SITUATION STOP

QUOTE EN CONSEQUENCE CE NE SERA NI PAR TELEX, NI PAR
LETTRE ET NI PAR PERSONNE INTERPOSEE NE CONNAISSANT PAS
LA QUESTION QUE NOUS ARRIVERONS A REGLER CE PROBLEME
COMBIEN IMPORTANT STOP

QUOTE VEUILLEZ AGREER, MONSEIUR JOLIS, L'ASSURANCE DE MA
PARFAITE CONSIDERATION STOP ET FIN

JEAN BEDEL BOKASSA
MARECHAL DE LA REPUBLIQUE
CENTRAFRICAINE UNQUOTE

2. MOST INTERESTING FEATURE OF THIS LETTER IS THE EFFORT
TO PUT PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR SCED'S MISTAKES ON
JOLIS' SHOULDERS. THE LETTER IS ALSO REMARKABLY IMPRECISE
WITH REGARD TO WHAT STATUTES HAVE BEEN VIOLATED BY SCED,
AND WHAT OBLIGATIONS SCED HAS FAILED TO FULFILL. BOKASSA BY
CALLING FOR DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH JOLIS WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS
MAY HAVE IN MIND COMPROMISE SOLUTION, BUT THIS IS FAR FROM
CLEAR GIVEN EMOTIONAL CHARGES MADE AGAINST SCED IN THE PAST.

3. WE HAVE DISCUSSED LETTER WITH OELBAUM AND TEND TO
AGREE WITH HIS VIEW THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE PRUDENT
FOR JOLIS TO COME TO BANGUI AT THIS TIME. A PREFERABLE
TACTIC WOULD BE FOR JOLIS TO RESPOND TO THIS REQUEST BY
SUGGESTING A MEETING WITH BOKASSA IN PARIS. IF SUCH A
MEETING PROVES IMPOSSIBLE, JOLIS MAY ULTIMATELY, HOWEVER,
HAVE TO CONSIDER VISIT TO CAR.
QUAINTON

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